

Approximately 40 minutes Expository



Living Hope in a Temporary World

A Study Through 1 Peter Chapter 1 (NIV)

Opening Prayer:

Father God, we come before You in the name of Jesus. Thank You for Your living Word. As we open 1 Peter today, open our hearts. Strengthen believers who may be struggling. Awaken anyone who does not yet know You. Help us to see the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, the beauty of salvation, and the call to holy living. Speak clearly, Lord. We are listening. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Introduction: Written to the Scattered Church

The apostle Peter is writing to believers who are suffering. They are scattered throughout Asia Minor. Asia Minor is modern-day Turkey. They are misunderstood, disregarded as a people, and in many cases persecuted.

Peter does not write to them about politics. He does not write about changing Rome. He writes about something far greater:

Hope.

- Not wishful thinking.
- Not positive thinking.
 -  But living hope rooted in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

So Let's begin in verse 1.

1 Peter 1:1-2 Chosen and Known:

1 Peter 1:1-2 (NIV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, 👉 kap-uh-DOH-shuh(or: cap-uh-dough-shuh) Asia and Bithynia, 👉 bih-THIN-ee-uh ² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Right away Peter reminds them who they are:

- **Elect** - chosen.
- **Exiles** - this world is not their home.

- **Sanctified by the Spirit** - being set apart.
- **Sprinkled with the blood of Jesus** - cleansed.

👉 Brothers and Sisters, this is important.

When life shakes you, your character anchors you.

- You are not an accident.
- You are not forgotten.
- You are not random.

If you belong to Christ, you were known before you were born.

And notice the Trinity here in vs 2:

- The Father foreknew.
- The Spirit sanctifies.
- The Son saves through His blood.

Vs.2 **² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the**

Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:....

👉 Salvation is not a human idea. It is a divine **rescue plan**.

Verses 3-5 A Living Hope:

1 Peter 1:3(NIV)³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Peter bursts into praise.

Why?

Because salvation is not dead religion.

👉 It is a **new birth**.

You are not reformed.

👉 You are **reborn**.

And this hope is living because Jesus is living.

If Christ were still in the tomb, Christianity would be a memorial service.

👉 But He is risen!

Because He lives:

- . Your hope lives.
- . Your future lives.
- . Your inheritance lives.

Verse 4 says:

1 Peter 1:4(NIV)⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,

Everything on earth fades.

- Homes go downhill.
- Bodies weaken.
- Economies rise and fall.
- Reputations disappear.

But your inheritance cannot:

- It cannot Perish
- It cannot Spoil
- Nor can it Fade away

And not only is your inheritance kept

1 Peter 1:5(NIV)⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

....verse 5 says **you are shielded by God's power.**

You are not holding onto Him.

👉 He is holding onto you.

Verses 6-9 The Purpose of Trials:

Now Peter shifts...to suffering and trials in life....

1 Peter 1:6(NIV) ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

He does not deny the suffering.

👉 He explains it.

Trials test the genuineness of faith.

- Gold is refined by fire.
- Faith is refined by trials.

When life is easy, anyone can say they believe.

👉 But when suffering hits, faith is revealed.

Verse 7 says these trials come:

1 Peter 1:7(NIV) ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Suffering is temporary.
Glory is eternal.

Peter says: **1 Peter 1:8-9**(NIV) ***8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.***

👉 That is us....That's us Brothers and Sisters....

We have not physically seen Jesus.

- But we love Him.
- And we believe in Him.

And what is the result?

Vs 8 ***“...you are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy...”***

Not happiness based on circumstances.

👉 Joy based on Jesus Christ alone.

Verses 10-12 The Salvation Prophets Longed For:

1 Peter 1:10-12(NIV)¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

Peter now reminds them that this salvation was predicted a long, long, time ago.

The prophets searched carefully.
They wrote about the Messiah.
They longed to understand what we now
know clearly.

👉 Imagine that.

Isaiah wrote about the **suffering servant**.
King David wrote **Psalm 22**.

❖ Psalm 22 is Jesus taking on all the
sins of this world on the Cross...in much
detail...

👉 But they did not see the full picture
like we do.

Peter says even angels long to look into
these things.

👉 Brother and Sisters, The gospel is not
something common or ordinary.
It is a **cosmic message** that reaches
across heaven and earth.

Verses 13-16 Be Holy:

Now Peter moves from doctrine to duty.

1 Peter 1:13-14(NIV) ¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

👉 Because salvation is real We must live differently.

Verse 15-16:

1 Peter 1:15-16(NIV) ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Holiness does not mean perfection...not at all.

It means being set apart for God.

It means our lives begin to look just a little different.

- Different priorities.
- Different speech.
- Different loves.
- Different loyalties.

The **world says**, “*Blend in.*”

 **God says**, “*Stand apart.*”

- Holiness is not legalism.
- It is love responding to grace.

We are not trying to earn God's favor.
We are living differently because we
already have God’s favor. We just love
HIM...

When you truly understand the grace of
Jesus Christ,
your heart begins to change...

 and a changed heart begins to live a
different life.

**Verses 17–21 The Cost of
Redemption:**

Peter reminds them: Vs. 17-18

1 Peter 17-18(NIV) ¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,

“...you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed...”

You were not purchased cheaply.

Verse 19:

1 Peter 1:19(NIV) ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Your salvation cost heaven everything.

Jesus was foreknown before creation.

1 Peter 1:20(NIV)²⁰ *He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.*

This was always the plan.

👉 The cross was not an accident.

👉 It was intentional love.

And verse 21 reminds us:

1 Peter 1:21(NIV)²¹ *Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.*

👉 The resurrection validates everything.

Verses 22-25 ... Love One Another:

Peter now reveals what salvation looks like when it begins to transform a life.

1 Peter 1:22(NIV) ²² **Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.**

Real salvation produces real love.

- Not shallow love.
- Not convenient love.
- 👉 Deep love.

Why?

👉 Because you have been born again:

1 Peter 1:23(NIV) ²³ **For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.**

Everything **human** fades like grass.

But:

1 Peter 1:24-25(NIV)²⁴ For,

**“All people are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of
the field;**

**the grass withers and the flowers fall,
²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures
forever.”**

**And this is the word that was preached
to you.**

And that Word is the **gospel, the good news** preached to you.

Bringing It Home:

So what does 1 Peter 1 teach us?

1. You are chosen.
2. You have a living hope.
3. Trials refine your faith.

4. Salvation is glorious and eternal.
5. You are called to holiness.
6. You were redeemed by precious blood.
7. Love proves new birth.

Peter writes to suffering believers and says:

You may be scattered...
But you are secure.

You may be tested...
But you are treasured.

You may be temporary here...
But your inheritance is eternal.

Invitation to Be Born Again:

Now let me speak plainly to anyone listening who has never experienced this **“new birth.”**

Peter said: Vs. 3

“He has given us new birth into a living hope...”

New birth means spiritual life.

It means:

- . Turning from sin
 - . Trusting in Jesus Christ
 - . Receiving forgiveness
 - . Being made new
- You cannot inherit heaven by being religious.
 - You cannot earn it.
 - You cannot buy it.

👉 You must be born again.

Jesus said in **John 3** **that no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.**

Right now...

If you can feel conviction...
If you feel the Spirit drawing you...
If you know you need forgiveness...

Today is the day. This is your day... right now... This very moment.

Right where you are at, you can pray:

Lets pray...

“Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe You died for me and rose again. I turn from my sin and ask You to forgive me. Come into my life. Make me new. I trust You as my Savior and Lord. Amen.”

👉 **“If”** you prayed that sincerely, the Bible says you have passed from death to life.

Congratulations!!! You now have a living hope. Welcome to the family of God!!!

Closing Encouragement to Believers:

Now I am talking to all believers.

Brothers and Sisters, stand firm.

- The world may shake.
 - Trials may come.
- 👉 But your inheritance is secure.

Now go out into this World....

Live holy.

Love deeply.

Hope with assurance.

This is the good news...

Jesus is coming again!!! Very soon... Get Excited!!!

Closing Prayer:

Father God, thank You for the living hope we have in Jesus Christ. Strengthen Your church. Refine our faith. Help us live holy lives in an unholy world. And for those who have turned to You today, seal them by Your Spirit and grow them strong. We praise You for the precious blood of Christ and the empty tomb. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen.



Matthew 28:19-20